



## New Jersey Department of Children and Families Policy Manual

Manual:	NJAC	NJ Administrative Code Excerpts	Effective Date:
Title	10	Human Services	
Chapter	133G	Client Information	5/21/2007
Subchapter:	4	Disclosure Of Information To The Media And Public About A Child Fatality Or Near Fatality	
Section	3	<b>Information that shall not be disclosed to the media or a member of the public about a child fatality ... (N.J.A.C. 10:133G-4.3)</b>	

### **§10:133G-4.3 Information that shall not be disclosed to the media or a member of the public about a child fatality or near fatality**

(a) Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 9:6-8.10a.f, neither a representative of the Office of the Director nor the Department's Office of Public Information shall disclose information to the media or a member of the public about a child fatality or near fatality investigated by a child protective investigator when:

1. The information would likely endanger the life, health, safety, or physical or emotional well-being of a child or the life or safety of any other person;
2. The information may compromise the integrity of or interfere with a child protection investigation, a civil or criminal investigation or a judicial proceeding.
  - i. If a criminal investigation is in progress or pending, the Director of the Division of Youth and Family Services or designee shall contact the county prosecutor before releasing any information to the media or a member of the public about the incident, to determine what information can be disclosed, if any, based on the status of the criminal investigation;
3. The information is deemed confidential by Federal law or State law other than N.J.S.A. 9:6-8.10a, including, but not limited to, the laws referenced in N.J.A.C. 10:133G-2.3(a)1;
4. The information includes the name of or any identifying information about the reporter, even when the reporter gives written consent to disclose his or her identity in accordance with N.J.A.C. 10:133G-2.1(c);
5. The information includes the name of any Division representative assigned to the child protection investigation or the management of the case; or

6. The information concerns any disciplinary actions taken against a Division representative as a result of or related to the incident or the handling of the case by the Division representative.

(b) Any person denied information as stated in (a) above may petition the Chancery Court for release of the information.

(c) Neither the Director, the Department's Office of Public Information nor a designee shall release information obtained from another agency or entity which is investigating a child fatality or near fatality on its own or in cooperation with the Division, such as the police, the county prosecutor or the medial examiner.

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